



**Cedar Rim  
NURSERY**

## Planting Bulbs in those Special Areas of the Garden

When fall arrives one thinks that things in the garden are starting to slow down. However, there are still the spring bulbs to plant as well as all those leaves to rake up. There are many different ways of planting spring bulbs. First you have to look at the different areas within your yard and find out which of them you want to add some spring colour. Then you have to figure out the types of bulbs that will be required for the different areas. For instance are they going to be in full sun, part-sun or full shade? Is the soil dry or moist, are they out in the wind or in a sheltered area? Even you need to take into consideration how much room you have, is it a half-acre or a pot on your balcony.

*There are some planting ideas for those special places in your garden;*

### ***The Shady Garden***

These are areas found mostly in the back corner of your yard or under large evergreens and tend to be dark. In these types of areas you will want to plant white or light colours of flowering bulbs. The other thing you will want is the naturalizing type of bulb for these areas, as under trees is a hard place to work and so planting the bulbs once will do you for several years with more coming each year as they multiply. If the limbs of the tree hang down low then you will want to only plant bulbs that are a low growing varieties, so they will be seen from a distance. Crocus, Botanical

Tulips, Snowdrops and Scillia are just a few that do well in these areas.

### ***The Woodland Garden***

The woodland gardens can be fun to plant, and then watch come into a sea of colour in the spring. Like the shady areas, the woodland gardens are shady and most times moist too. These garden are natural looking and the bulbs will be mixed in with other woodland plants like ferns, bleeding hearts, salal, grasses, other native plants, as well as tree stumps and large rocks. Here again you will want to plant naturalizing bulbs that will multiply on their own, survive in semi-shade to full shade and like moist soil.

### ***The Sunny Border***

With a sunny border you have a lot more to choose from in bulbs, but you still must give some thought as to how you want the garden to look, formal or informal. For a formal look, you are going to want to plant a colour theme, with using blocks of the same colour or colours over and over again, so that it has impact from a distance as well as close up. By using the layering technique you will have the most dramatic display of bulbs you will have ever seen. Choose 4 – 5 different types of bulbs in varying heights, colours and bloom times. Now dig a hole deep enough to plant your largest bulbs ( 2 and ½ times the size of the bulb) in a 12” wide hole place approx. 10-12 bulbs in the hole, cover the first layer. Now place your second largest bulbs around in the hole, again cover with soil and repeat with the other bulbs until you finish off with the smallest bulbs up near the top of the hole. Don't worry about the bulbs getting in the way of each other, they will work their way up around the other bulbs.

### ***The Lawn Garden***

Yes even your lawn can become a show of early spring colour. In the very early spring is when we need a lift from the dark, dismal

days of winter. So, an easy way of adding bulbs to your lawn is by taking either a hand auger or lawn aerator and making holes in the lawn. Then drop a small bulb like crocus or snowdrops ( which are naturalizing bulbs )in the hole and cover with soil, then sit back and wait for the spring show. By the time you have to do the first mow on the lawn, the bulbs will be finished and therefore not harm them.

### ***The Rockery Garden***

In the rockery garden you are going to want to plant low growing varieties of bulbs that will fit in with the surrounding plants and rocks. Some of the bulbs we suggest are;

*Bulbocodium Vernum*

*Cyclamen Neapolitanum*

*All Mini Botanical Tulips*

*Melegris Alba*

*Dwarf Iris Tuberosa*

*Anemone White Splendor, Rosea, Blue Star or Mixed Colours*

*All Muscari*

*Narcissus Topolino, Quail, Hawera, Golden Bells*

### ***The Hidden Garden***

This is a garden that is out of the way and is not viewed from the rest of the yard. Where you can plant up pots of bulbs and hold them in the ground until the bulbs have started to grow and then you can place them out into the garden or in to large patio planters where you want them. These pots can also be brought into the house to be forced for early indoor spring colour.

You can lift the bulb pots after the bulbs have finished but before the greens have died back and plant them back in the hidden garden. Now your garden beds and patio pots are free to be worked on in preparation for annual plantings and you don't have to look at the dying bulb greenery.

### ***The Container Garden***

Planting bulbs in large containers enables you to add spring colour and fragrance to areas that would be dull and dreary in the cool winter/early spring months. Large pots of colour next to your front and back doors will give you much enjoyment every time you walk by. Planting your container from the earliest crocus to the latest tulip will give you several months of spring colour.

### ***The Cutting Garden***

The spring cutting garden you may want to add to the area of your summer cutting garden, where you plant your dahlias and other summer annual flowers. Here is a list of recommended cutting flowers;

*Lilies Trumpet, oriental and Asiatic*

*Gladiolus Byzantinum*

*Ixia Mixed Colours*

*Dutch Iris White Excelsior, Frans Hals*

*Tulips White Parrot, Mt. Tacoma, Jimmy, Greenland, Spring Green, Fancy Frills*

### ***The Fragrant Garden***

These gardens you will want to be close to the house so you can enjoy the beautiful scents that will surround you as you walk by. Just a few hyacinths planted in the right place will be enjoyed by whoever come near.

***Always refer to the box or bulb package for all the information you will need to choose the right bulb for the right place.***

***Whether it be sun or shade, wet or dry soil, tall or short, early or late blooming. Also check if the bulb is fragrant or not, a good cut flower and of course check the colour of the bulb.***